GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Mines & Minerals – Star Rating for Minor Minerals for all the Quarry Leases for 31 Minor Minerals and Granite & Marble - Notification – Issued.

Industries & Commerce (Mines.II) Department

G.O.MS.No. 33 Dated: 07-02-2019

Read the following:

1. Notification No.31/4/2016-M.III, Dt:23.05.2016 of Ministry of Mines, GoI.
2. From the Ministry of Mines, GoI, Letter in F.No.31/4/2016-M.II, Dt:30.01.2018.
3. From the Director of Mines & Geology, AP, Lr.No.17063/P-MSS/2016, Dt:01.01.2019.

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ORDER:

The Ministry of Mines, Government of India has designed to built in compliance mechanism for environment and forest safeguards and will help in recognizing good performers in the sector, while encouraging all mining lease holders to strive for excellence, in the reference 1st read above. Further, the Ministry of Mines vide reference 2nd read above advised the States to adopt Star Rating template with modification as they may feel necessary and notify them in their Minor Minerals Concessions Rules and Regulations to enable the State Government to institutionalize a statutory mechanism for ensuring sustainable mining which addresses the concerns on environment and socio-economic issues in the mining sector, through a Sustainable Development Framework.

2. In this connection, in pursuance to the advice of Ministry of Mines, GoI, the Department has prepared templates and portal for uploading the details taking into the consideration of the draft templates communicated by the Ministry of Mines, GoI and the same has been communicated to all the Assistant Director of Mines & Geology (R&V) in the State with a direction to conduct interactive sessions with the lease holders in their respective jurisdiction vide Director of Mines & Geology's Circular Memo No.17063/P-MSS/2016, Dt:20.06.2018.

3. Further, it was submitted that keeping in view of the advice of the Ministry of Mines, Government of India the Star Rating programme along with templates has to notified by the Government publishing through Gazette notification under the powers delegated under section 15(1) of Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957.

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4. Accordingly, the Government, after careful examination of the matter hereby decided to publish the following Notification in the Extra-ordinary issue of the Andhra Pradesh Gazette dt. 07.02.2019.

NOTIFICATION

"Star Rating of Minor Mineral leases for 31 Minor Minerals shown at Sl.No. 18 to 48 in Schedule-I under Rule 10 of Andhra Pradesh Minor Minerals Concessions Rules, 1966, Granite and Marble:

A 'Star Rating' will be awarded to the Minor Mineral leases for 31 Minor Minerals shown at Sl.No. 18 to 48 in Schedule-I under Rule 10 of Andhra Pradesh Minor Minerals Concessions Rules, 1966, Granite and Marble for their efforts and initiatives taken for implementation of the Sustainable Development Framework (SDF). One to five stars would be given to the Quarry Leases. The best performing Quarry leases would be given 5 Stars. The star rating scheme is designed to have a built in compliance mechanism for environment and forest safeguards and will help in recognizing good performers in the sector while encouraging all Quarry lease holders to strive for excellence. The platform would not only encourage sharing of best practices but would also incentivize the adoption of best practices. The rating system in future may be useful in obtaining faster clearances from various regulatory bodies.

The 'Star Rating' will be started initially for the Minor Mineral leases for 31 Minor Minerals shown at Sl.No. 18 to 48 in Schedule-I under Rule 10 of Andhra Pradesh Minor Minerals Concessions Rules, 1966, Granite and Marble. The quarry leases which have been operational for more than 180 days in the year of reporting would be eligible for star rating.

The evaluation template has been designed for the assessment of the Sustainable Development Framework (SDF) implementation in the quarry lease based on the following parameters-

(a) The management of impact by carrying out scientific and efficient quarrying.
(b) addressing social impacts of our resettlement and rehabilitation requirements for taking up Quarrying activities.
(c) Local community engagements and welfare programmes.
(d) Steps taken for progressive and final mine enclosure.
(e) Adoption of National standards.

A web portal for online filling up the evaluation template is developed by Department of Mines & Geology for Star Rating of Minor Minerals leases for 31 Minor Minerals shown at Sl.No. 18 to 48 in Schedule-I under Rule 10 of Andhra Pradesh Minor Minerals Concessions Rules, 1966, Granite and Marble

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enabled in the Department of Mines & Geology web portal and provide the access to the Assistant Directors of Mines & Geology. The lessees will have to fill up a self-assessment form (http://125.21.85.32/ CitizenPortal/ UserInterface/Citizen/CitizenHomePage.aspx -> Star Ratings). Based on the self-assessment and subsequent evaluation by concerned Assistant Directors of Mines & Geology, a rating from One to Five stars would be given to the quarries, with Five stars being allotted to the best performing mines.

The process of online filing of Star Rating of Minor Minerals leases for 31 Minor Minerals shown at Sl.No. 18 to 48 in Schedule-I under Rule 10 of Andhra Pradesh Minor Minerals Concessions Rules, 1966, Granite and Marble template will be in place upon notification by the State Government and the quarry lease holders will be required to fill up the evaluation template for star rating for the Reporting Year of 2017-18, on self-certification basis. The lessees would fill up the evaluation template on the portal and on that basis a provisional 'Star Rating' would be awarded to the Quarry lease.

The confirmation of star rating would be given upon the due verification by the concerned Assistant Directors of Mines & Geology who shall evaluate a percentage of the total working leases falling within his respective office jurisdiction. The quarry leases for 31 Minor Minerals shown at Sl.No. 18 to 48 in Schedule-I under Rule 10 of Andhra Pradesh Minor Minerals Concessions Rules 1966, Granite and Marble would be awarded in their category large (more than 5 Hectares), medium (2 to 5 Hectares) and small (Less than 2 Hectares) on the basis of the star rating evaluation."

5. The Director of Mines and Geology, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada shall take necessary action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

B.SREEDHAR
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Commissioner of Printing, Stationery & Stores Purchases (Printing Wing), Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada. (He is requested to publish the above Notification in the Extra Ordinary issue of A.P. Gazette, with immediate effect and arrange to send 200 copies of the same to the Government in Industries & Commerce(M.II) Department)
The Director of Mines & Geology, A.P., Ibrahimpatnam, Vijayawada. (With a request to pursue the matter for publication.)
Copy to: The Law (H) Department
The P.S. to Secy. (Mines), Industries & Commerce Department
The PS to M (M&G)
Sf/Sc. (e-file No:887/M.II/2018)

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER